## IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with the following paragraph:

A content distribution system allowing user authentication to be performed to identify a user in content transaction, thereby permitting the content to be used. The content is distributed with a secure container. The secure container includes the content enciphered with a content key and container information in which the content transaction condition is set. The container information includes an identification certificate identifier list. An identification certificate contains a template serving as personal identification data of a user who is to receive the content and it is identified in accordance with the list. A service provider, a user device, or the like authenticates the user in accordance with the identified certificate, and then permits the content to be used.